THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Unified Command to Combat the insurgents in the North-East Region

*556. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in his recent visit to the North-East Region, he had declared a unified command to combat insurgents in the North-East Region;

(b) if so, whether the command is constituted on a State-wise or regional basis; and

(c) by when it will start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, a 3-tier coordinating mechanism for counter insurgency operations, part of which is called a Unified Headquarters, exists for Assam with effect from January 20, 1997.

Flaws in Licence Fee structures of Telecom Sector

*557. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether experts have pointed out any flaws in the Licence Fee structure of the Telecom Sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI BENI PRASAD VARMA): (a) to (c) Some individuals have been airing their views in various forums by stating that on account of high cost of operations including high licence fee, the projects of Basic Telephone Service are likely to be non-prfitable. The Licence fee for Basic Services has been quoted by the bidders themselves and has not been fixed by the Government. For other Value Added Services, no such views are known to have been expressed.

Bridge on river Ganges connecting Anupshahar in District Bulandshahr (U.P.)

*558. SHRI AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a representation for construction of a bridge over river Ganges connecting Anupshahar in district Bulandshahr and border of district Badayun;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware of the fact that the flyover will ease the movement of people of many districts particularly, Bulandshahr, Badayun, Moradabad, etc. and enhance the economy of these districts as well; and

(d) if so, the decision Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN): (a) and (b) A representation for construction of said bridge was received by the U.P. Govt. from Distt. Secretary, Rabta Committee, U.P. Upper Kot, Bulandshahar vide his letter dated 31.3.94

(c) The State Govt. of Uttar Pradesh is of the view that it will ease the movement of people.

(d) The Central Govt. is primarily responsible for the development of National Highways. The proposal for the construction of a major bridge over Ganga near Anupshahar being not on a National Highway, its construction is the responsibility of the State Govt. of Uttar Pradesh.

The State Govt. of Uttar Pradesh have